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Reply to Office Action of 2 June 2005

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:
 - a body member comprising:
 - a vent passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the body member; and
 - a collar having a collar passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the collar, the collar passageway in fluid communication with the vent passageway; and
 - an adjustment member comprising a head disposed to adjustably restrict a flow of air through the vent passageway and a stem, the stem having one or more stem portions, the one or more stem portions comprising one or more contact portions which engage an interior surface of the collar and which moveably couple the adjustment member to the ~~body member~~ collar and wherein the one or more stem portions, alone or in combination with the interior surface of the collar, ~~defining one or more~~ define a plurality of collar openings that extend through the collar passageway to permit airflow therethrough.
2. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 wherein a position of the adjustment member is adjustable relative to the body member to adjustably restrict a flow of air through the vent passageway.

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3. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the flow of air through the vent passageway flows through the ~~one or more~~ plurality of collar openings.
4. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the plurality of collar opening openings is completely defined between at least one stem portion and the interior surface of the collar.
5. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the plurality of collar opening openings is completely defined between a plurality of stem portions.
6. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 wherein inward movement of the adjustment member relative to the body member decreases a size of an opening through which air may flow into and out of the vent passageway and outward movement of the adjustment member relative to the body member increases the size of the opening through which air may flow into and out of the vent passageway.
7. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 1 wherein the one or more stem portions comprise one or more blades, each blade comprising at least one surface and at least one exterior edge having a dimension smaller than a dimension of the at least one surface and wherein the one or more contact portions ~~comprise a plurality of contact portions that are substantially defined by the exterior edges of the one or more blades which~~ engage the interior surface of the collar at spaced apart locations.

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8. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:
a body member comprising:
a vent passageway that extends from an inward
side to an outward side of the body member; and
a collar having a collar passageway that
extends from an inward side to an outward side of
the collar, the collar passageway in fluid
communication with the vent passageway; and
an adjustment member comprising a head disposed to
adjustably restrict a flow of air through the vent
passageway and a stem, the stem having one or more stem
portions, the one or more stem portions comprising one or
more contact portions which engage an interior surface of
the collar and which moveably couple the adjustment
member to the body member and the one or more stem
portions, alone or in combination with the interior
surface of the collar, defining one or more collar
openings that extend through the collar passageway
wherein the one or more stem portions comprise one or
more blades and wherein the one or more contact portions
comprise a plurality of contact portions that engage the
interior surface of the collar at spaced-apart locations
and A vent according to claim 7 wherein the one or more
blades comprise a plurality of blades which extend
radially in angularly spaced-apart directions.
9. (Original) A vent according to claim 8 wherein the angularly spaced-apart directions are equally spaced from one another.

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10. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:

a body member comprising:

a vent passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the body member; and

a collar having a collar passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the collar, the collar passageway in fluid communication with the vent passageway; and

an adjustment member comprising a head disposed to adjustably restrict a flow of air through the vent passageway and a stem, the stem having one or more stem portions, the one or more stem portions comprising one or more contact portions which engage an interior surface of the collar and which moveably couple the adjustment member to the body member and the one or more stem portions, alone or in combination with the interior surface of the collar, defining one or more collar openings that extend through the collar passageway ~~A vent according to claim 1 wherein the interior surface of the collar is generally circular in cross-section and comprises one or more helical threads.~~

11. (Original) A vent according to claim 10 wherein the one or more contact portions comprise at least one contact portion that has one or more indents for engaging the one or more helical threads.

12. (Original) A vent according to claim 11 wherein rotating the adjustment member relative to the body member in a first angular direction causes corresponding inward movement of the adjustment member relative to the body member and a corresponding decrease in a size of an opening through which air may flow into and out of the

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vent passageway and rotating the adjustment member relative to the body member in a second angular direction causes corresponding outward movement of the adjustment member relative to the body member and a corresponding increase in the size of the opening through which air may flow into and out of the vent passageway.

13. (Original) A vent according to claim 10 wherein the one or more stem portions comprise one or more blades, wherein the one or more contact portions comprise a plurality of contact portions that engage the interior surface of the collar at spaced-apart locations and wherein the one or more contact portions comprise at least one contact portion that has one or more indents for engaging the one or more helical threads.
14. (Original) A vent according to claim 13 wherein the one or more blades comprise a plurality of blades which extend radially in angularly spaced-apart directions.
15. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 wherein the one or more contact portions slidably frictionally engage the interior surface of the collar.
16. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:
a body member comprising:
a vent passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the body member; and
a collar having a collar passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the collar, the collar passageway in fluid communication with the vent passageway; and

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an adjustment member comprising a head disposed to adjustably restrict a flow of air through the vent passageway and a stem, the stem having one or more stem portions, the one or more stem portions comprising one or more contact portions which engage an interior surface of the collar and which moveably couple the adjustment member to the body member and the one or more stem portions, alone or in combination with the interior surface of the collar, defining one or more collar openings that extend through the collar passageway. A vent according to claim 1 wherein the interior surface of the collar comprises one or more inwardly extending grooves and wherein the one or more contact portions comprise at least one contact portion that is slidably received in each of the grooves.

17. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 wherein the interior surface of the collar comprises one or more projections and wherein the one or more contact portions comprise at least one inwardly extending groove which slidably receives the one or more projections.
18. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 wherein the body member comprises one or more brackets for supporting the collar in the vent passageway.
19. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:
a body member comprising:
a vent passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the body member; and
a collar having a collar passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of

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the collar, the collar passageway in fluid communication with the vent passageway;

an adjustment member comprising a head disposed to adjustably restrict a flow of air through the vent passageway and a stem, the stem having one or more stem portions, the one or more stem portions comprising one or more contact portions which engage an interior surface of the collar and which moveably couple the adjustment member to the body member and the one or more stem portions, alone or in combination with the interior surface of the collar, defining one or more collar openings that extend through the collar passageway; and a vent according to claim 1 comprising

at least one intermediate member that is coupled between the body member and the adjustment member, the intermediate member comprising an intermediate vent passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the intermediate member and comprising an intermediate member collar having an intermediate collar passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the intermediate member collar, the intermediate collar passageway in fluid communication with the intermediate vent passageway, wherein the one or more contact portions engage an interior surface of the intermediate member collar and adjustably couple the intermediate member between the adjustment member and the body member and wherein the one or more stem portions, alone or in combination with the interior surface of the intermediate member collar, define one or more intermediate collar openings that extend through the intermediate collar passageway.

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20. (Original) A vent according to claim 19 wherein at least one intermediate collar opening is defined between at least one stem portion and the interior surface of the intermediate member collar.
21. (Original) A vent according to claim 19 wherein at least one collar opening is defined between a plurality of stem portions.
22. (Original) A vent according to claim 19 wherein a position of the intermediate member is adjustable relative to the adjustment member and the body member to adjustably restrict a flow of air through the vent passageway.
23. (Original) A vent according to claim 19 wherein the interior surface of the intermediate member collar is generally circular in cross-section and comprises one or more helical threads.
24. (Original) A vent according to claim 23 wherein the one or more contact portions comprise at least one contact portion that has one or more indents for engaging the one or more helical threads.
25. (Original) A vent according to claim 23 wherein the one or more stem portions comprise one or more blades, wherein the one or more contact portions comprise a plurality of contact portions that engage the interior surface of the intermediate member collar at spaced-apart locations and wherein the one or more contact portions comprise at least one contact portion that has one or

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more indents for engaging the one or more helical threads.

26. (Original) A vent according to claim 25 wherein the one or more blades comprise a plurality of blades which extend radially in angularly spaced-apart directions.
27. (Original) A vent according to claim 19 wherein the intermediate member comprises one or more spaced-apart brackets for supporting the intermediate member collar in the intermediate vent passageway.
28. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 wherein the body member comprises a mounting flange for coupling the body member to a building surface.
29. (Original) A vent according to claim 28 wherein, when the vent is mounted to the building surface, a plurality of fasteners project through the mounting flange and into the building surface.
30. (Original) A vent according to claim 29 comprising a trim member that is removably coupleable to the body member, wherein, when the trim member is coupled to the body member, the trim member extends over an outward surface of the mounting flange at a distance spaced outwardly therefrom.
31. (Original) A vent according to claim 30 wherein the trim member covers an outward side of any portions of the plurality of fasteners which extend outwardly past the outward surface of the mounting flange.

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32. (Original) A vent according to claim 30 wherein the trim member is shaped to define a channel and wherein, when the trim member is coupled to the body member, the channel opens inwardly onto the outward surface of the mounting flange such that any portions of the plurality of fasteners which extend outwardly past the outward surface of the mounting flange are located in the channel.
33. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 comprising a trim member that is removably coupleable to the body member, wherein, when the trim member is coupled to the body member, the trim member covers outward ends of one or more fasteners used to mount the vent to a building surface.
34. (Original) A vent according to claim 33 wherein the trim member comprises an interiorly projecting lip and the body member comprises an exteriorly projecting lip and wherein, when the trim member is coupled to the body member, the interiorly projecting lip of the trim member is received on an inward side of the exteriorly projecting lip of the body member.
35. (Original) A vent according to claim 33 wherein the trim member comprises at least one groove and the body member comprises at least one projection and wherein, when the trim member is coupled to the body member, the at least one projection is received in the at least one groove.

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36. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:

a body member having a vent passageway which extends from an inward side to an outward side of the body member and a surface that defines a bore having a generally circular cross-section, the bore in fluid communication with the vent passageway; and

an adjustment member comprising a head and a stem projecting inwardly from the head, the stem comprising a plurality of blades;

wherein exterior edges of the blades are disposed to moveably engage the bore defining surface and wherein the blades, alone or in combination with the bore defining surface, define a plurality of passages through the bore.

37. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:

a body member having a vent passageway which extends from an inward side to an outward side of the body member and a surface that defines bore in fluid communication with the vent passageway; and

an adjustment member comprising a head and a stem projecting inwardly from the head, the stem comprising a plurality of blades;

wherein exterior edges of the blades are disposed to engage the bore defining surface and wherein the blades, alone or in combination with the bore defining surface, define a plurality of passages through the bore and ~~A vent according to claim 36~~ wherein the bore defining surface comprises one or more threads and the exterior edge of at least one of the blades comprise one or more indents for engaging the one or more threads.

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38. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:

a body member comprising:

a vent passageway that extends from an inward side to an outward side of the body member; and

a collar having an interior surface that defines a collar passageway which is in fluid communication with the vent passageway;

an adjustment member comprising a head disposed to adjustably restrict a flow of air through the vent passageway and a stem that projects inwardly from the head, the stem having one or more stem portions, the one or more stem portions comprising one or more contact portions which moveably engage an the interior surface of the collar and which couple the adjustment member to the body member, such that the stem projects inwardly into the collar passageway and the adjustment member is inwardly and outwardly moveable relative to the body member and is rotatable relative to the body member about an inwardly and outwardly extending axis;

wherein the one or more stem portions, alone or in combination with the interior surface of the collar, define one or more collar openings that extend through the collar passageway for permitting a flow of air through the collar passageway.

39. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:

a body member defining a vent passageway;

a collar ~~defining~~ that defines a collar passageway having a generally circular cross-section, the collar supported for fluid communication between the vent passageway and the collar passageway;

an adjustment member;

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coupling means for moveably coupling the adjustment member to the collar; and

passage means for permitting air flow through the collar passageway while the adjustment member is moveably coupled to the collar by the coupling means.